Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 19, line 35 with the following amended paragraph:

Figure 6A: Northern blot analysis of oligonucleotides containing beta-D-amino-LNA (2754), beta-D-thio-LNA (2748), alpha-L-oxy-LNA (2776) or beta-D-oxy-LNA (2742) at 50-400 nM in 15PC3 cells transfected with Lipofectamine2000; comparison with the corresponding mismatch control at 400 nM. Mismatch controls (thio=2750; amino=2756; alpha=2778) were also analyzed at 30-90 nM and compared with the corresponding match at 30nM.

Figure 6B: Table containing Northern blot analysis of oligunucleotides containing beta-D-amino-LNA (2754), alpha-L-oxy-LNA (2776) and beta-D-oxy-LNA (2742) at 5-40 nM in 15PC3 cells transfected with Lipofectamine2000; comparison with the corresponding mismatch controls at 20 nM.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 35, line 5 with the following amended paragraph:

The inclusion of beta-D-thio-LNA in the flanks of an oligonucleotide results in good down-regulation levels. From figure 5, we can see that oligunucleotides with beta-D-thio-LNA present good antisense activity at two different concentrations, 400 and 800 nM. No significant difference in down-regulation can be seen between oligonucleotides 2749 and 2748, which present a different degree in thiolation. However, 2749 presents better levels of down-regulation, both at 400 and 800 nM. We can conclude that the antisense activity of an oligonucleotide containing beta-D-thio-LNA lies in the range of the parent beta-D-oxy-LNA gapmer. From Figures 6A and 6B, a wider range of concentration was tested. There is a potent down-regulation between 50-400 nM for 2748. The specificity was also tested; at 30 nM there is a significant difference in down-regulation between the mismatch 2750 (less potent) and the match 2748.